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Serial No. 09/664,460
Art Unit No. 2682

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| <u>In Re Application of</u> | : | March 18, 2003 |
| <u>R. E. Chapman, Jr., et al</u> | : | Group Art No.: 2682 |
| <u>Serial No. 09/664,460</u> | : | Examiner: S. R. Sharma |
| <u>Filed: September 18, 2000</u> | : | IBM Corporation Anne Vachon Dougherty 3173 Cedar Road Yorktown Heights, New York 10598-1964 |
| <u>Title: TELEPHONE NETWORK NODE DEVICE</u> | | |

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2002 for the above-identified patent application. The 3 month shortened statutory period for this response is set to expire on March 18, 2003, and therefore, this is a response within the shortened statutory period. In response to the Office Action, the Applicants wish to amend the Patent Application as set forth below.